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## CASD MEMO 2018-04

To: All Electric Utilities

From: Susan E. Cottle, Deputy Director  
Consumer Assistance and Safety Division (CASD)

Date: January 26, 2018

Re: February 23 LIAP Informational Meeting Notice

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As you may recall, Chapter 314: Statewide Low-Income Assistance Plan (LIAP) was amended last July. (Those wishing to review the revised rule who may not already have done so may visit <http://www.maine.gov/mpuc/legislative/rules/part3-electric.shtml> to see not only the rule but the order adopting the rule and explaining the background and changes made.)

The substantive change to the rule allows for transmission and distribution electric utilities (T&Ds) using a lump sum benefit program (LSBP) to use a specific, Commission-created model to establish their annual benefit amounts. Use of the Commission's model is not mandatory; it is intended as a safe harbor for T&Ds that do not want to create their own LSBPs. Utilities wishing to develop their own LSBPs, however, may certainly do so by submitting terms and conditions for their proposed LIAPs to the Commission for review. Each utility proposing to modify its LIAP must submit its request for approval of such changes to the Commission by May 1 for modifications to be effective in the coming LIAP year, which begins the next October 1.

This means that any utility wishing to modify its LIAP from the Commission's standard model as outlined in the recently amended rule so it is effective for the upcoming LIAP year (starting October 1, 2018) must submit new terms and conditions for the LIAP by May 1, 2018.

We understand the changes to the rule—and the model in particular—may raise some questions. So we are planning an informational meeting for Friday, February 23, 2018, from 9 am to Noon here at the Commission to review those changes, with emphasis on the model and how it works. Please join us at the meeting in person or by phone (Call: 877.455.2441 then enter code: 2072871596). Those wanting to see any portion of the presentation, which will include helpful overhead slides, can use the PUC's online portal to see that information. (Those of you who have watched the Commission's deliberations will already be familiar with the online portal. Others who may be less familiar can follow the links for "Live Video" from the PUC's home page and or go directly to the portal <http://puc-rss.maine.gov/userportal/#/home/main> and be ready to click on "Live events" once the meeting has begun.

We hope you can join us, whether you can let us know that in advance or not. But if you can let me know you are coming (call 207-287-4934 or email [susan.cottle@maine.gov](mailto:susan.cottle@maine.gov)), we can be that much better prepared with handouts, etc. for the meeting. I look forward to hearing from you.